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April 22, 2004

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Room TW-B204
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service
CC Docket No. 96-45**

Dear Madam Secretary:

In accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. Section 1.1206, we hereby provide you with notice of an oral *ex parte* presentation in connection with the above-captioned proceeding. On April 21, 2004, undersigned counsel met with Christopher Libertelli and Trey Hanbury in Chairman Powell's office.

We discussed Smith Bagley, Inc.'s petition for ETC status in Utah, including the jurisdictional aspects of the case. We also discussed the recent Highland Cellular and Virginia Cellular cases, with counsel reiterating arguments made in the record of each proceeding. No materials were distributed at the meeting.

We trust that you will find this information to be useful. Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact undersigned counsel directly.

Sincerely,

/s/

David A. LaFuria

cc: Christopher Libertelli, Esq.
Trey Hanbury, Esq.